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JUN 03 2004

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSIONS COVERSHEET**

DATE: June 3, 2004

**ATTENTION:** P. Philogene

**COMPANY:** PTO

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9302

**FROM:** Brian S. Tomko

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NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 10

**COMMENTS:** **Re: 09/492,558**  
**Our Ref.: HRT0233**

**Attached are an Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time.**

## **CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

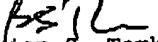
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Docket No. HRT0233

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : James R. Gannoe, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/492,558 Art Unit : 3732  
Filed : January 27, 2000 Examiner : P. Philogene  
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CARDIAC SURGERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the  
United States Patent & Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on June 3, 2004

  
Brian S. Tomko  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2004, the time for responding having been extended by petition, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this document.